

# **Town of Plainville's Request for an Amendment to its 2004 Lake Mirimichi Wellfield Decision Under the Interbasin Transfer Act**

## **Staff Recommendation**

Massachusetts Water Resources Commission  
April 10, 2025

# Town of Plainville, MA

- Has land area in the Blackstone River, Taunton River, and Ten Mile River Basins
- Water supply sources are located in the Taunton River and Ten Mile River Basins
  - Taunton River Basin sources are near Turnpike Lake and Lake Mirimichi
- Wastewater is discharged to the North Attleborough Wastewater Treatment Facility in the Ten Mile River Basin

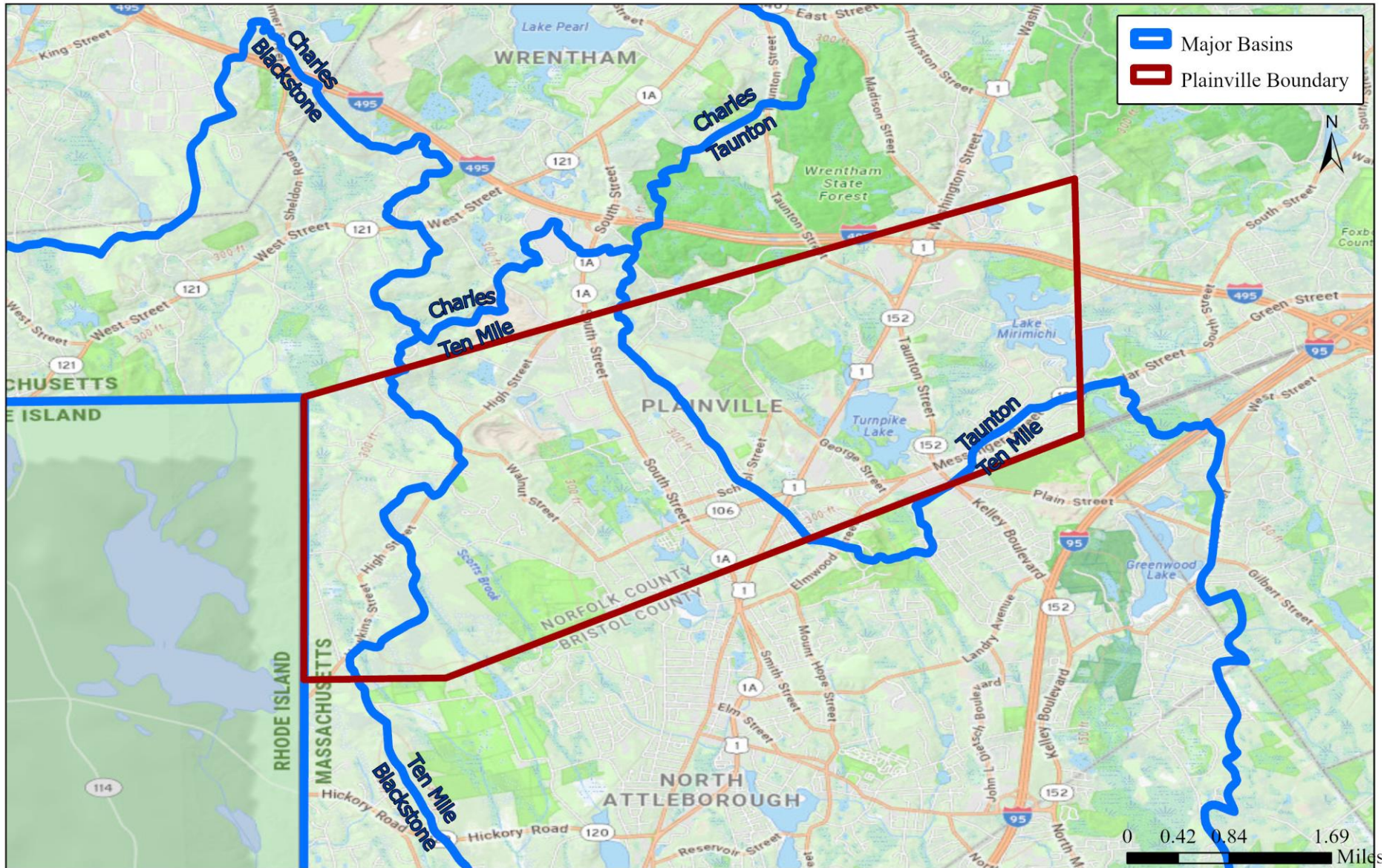


# Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation

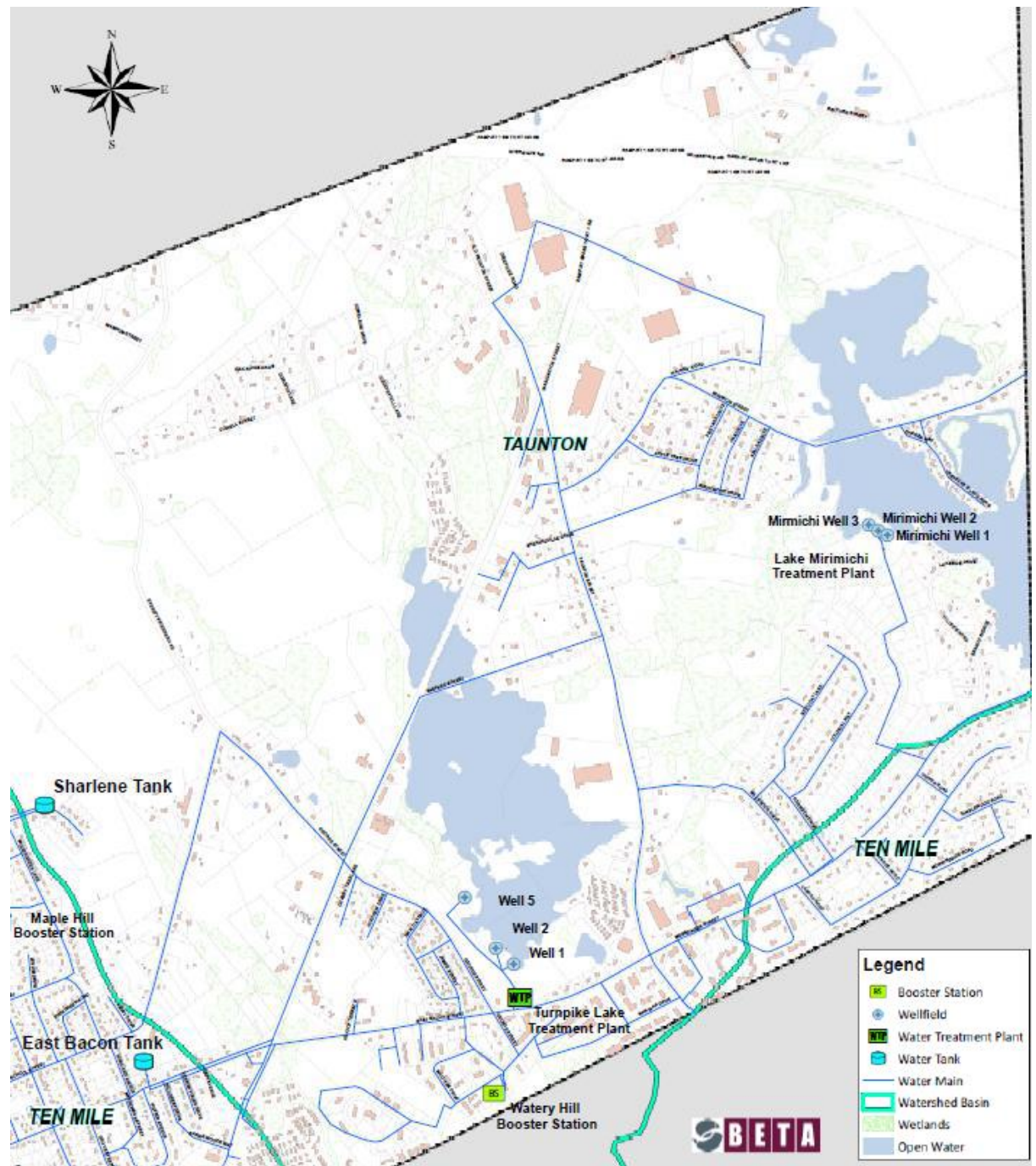
Division of Water Supply Protection

Office of Water Resources

## Plainville Location Map



# Map of Plainville's Taunton Basin Sources



# Description of 2004 Approved Transfer

- Groundwater wells proposed adjacent to Lake Mirimichi in the Taunton River Basin
- Maximum day demand = 0.4 MGD
- The WRC approved this proposal on March 11, 2004
- Wastewater transfer triggered by the development of a water supply, due to the wastewater discharge across a municipal and basin boundary

# Current Conditions

- Lake Mirimichi wellfield not in use due to subpar performance and water quality
- Plainville is proposing a new water treatment plant for the Turnpike Lake sources with a greater capacity (1.5 MGD) than existing (est. 1 MGD)
- Existing WTP constructed after ITA effective date
- Sources constructed prior to ITA effective date (1984) have a documented max capacity of 1.418 MGD
- Potential increased interbasin transfer of 0.082 MGD

# Description of Current Amendment Request

- February 2025: Town of Plainville requested to relinquish 0.1 MGD of the 0.4 MGD volume approved in the 2004 Lake Mirimichi Wellfield Decision
- By reducing the approved Lake Mirimichi interbasin transfer volume and reallocating it to the Turnpike Lake sources, no increase in interbasin transfer

# Current and Proposed Transfer Volumes

|                                           | <b>Current</b> | <b>Proposed</b> |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Turnpike Lake wells' approved ITA volume  | 1.418          | 1.518           |
| Lake Mirimichi wells' approved ITA volume | 0.4            | 0.3             |
| Total rate of interbasin transfer         | 1.818          | 1.818           |

*\*all volumes in million gallons per day (MGD)*

# Staff Recommendation

- Staff recommends the WRC approve Plainville's request to relinquish 0.1 MGD of the previously approved Lake Mirimichi Wellfield interbasin transfer volume of 0.4 MGD.
- This will allow construction of the new water treatment plant without causing an increase in the rate of interbasin transfer.
- Conditions in the 2004 WRC Decision are still applicable.
- A vote on the amendment is requested today.